PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Water Management Division
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 562-9437

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS (TMDLs) FOR WATERS IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA

Section 303(d)(1)(C) of the Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1313(d)(1)(C), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) implementing regulation, 40 C.F.R. § 130.7 (c)(1), require the establishment of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for waters identified in § 303(d)(1)(A) of the CWA. These TMDLs are to be established at levels necessary to implement applicable water quality standards with seasonal variations and a margin of safety, accounting for lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between effluent limitations and water quality. Additionally, an October 9, 1997 Court Order, approving a Consent Decree in the matter of Sierra Club v. EPA, No. 1-94-CV-2501-MHS (N.D. GA), requires the comment in accordance with a specified schedule.

At this time, EPA has developed proposed TMDLs for the following waterbodies and pollutants of concern identified on the State of Georgia's 303(d) list: Little Tallapoosa River, Settingdown Creek, Bannister Creek, Dykes Creek, Conesenna Creek, Euharlee Creek, Oothkalooga Creek, Pine Log Creek, Salacoa Creek - Sediment; Spring Creek - Mercury; Talking Rock Creek and Etowah River - Fish Consumption Guidance (Mercury).

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed TMDLs or to offer new data or information regarding the proposed TMDLs are invited to submit the same in writing no later than September 30, 2003, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Water Management Division, 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303: ATTENTION: Ms. Sibyl Cole, Standards, Monitoring and TMDL Branch. Ms. Cole's telephone number is (404) 562-9437. Ms. Cole may also be contacted via electronic mail at cole.sibyl@epa.gov. Please note that EPA encourages the public to submit comments electronically.

The proposed TMDLs and the administrative records, including technical information, data and analyses, supporting the proposed TMDLs may be reviewed at 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Persons wishing to review this information should contact Ms. Cole to schedule a time for that review. This notice and the proposed TMDLs can also be obtained through the Internet. The URL address for the proposed TMDLs is http://www.epa.gov/ergion4/water/tmdl/.

A final decision on the proposed TMDLs will be made shortly after September 30, 2003. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of persons whom you believe will be interested in this matter.

James D. Giattina, Director Date of Signature

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